

Appln. No. 10/019,992

Attorney Docket No. 10541-929

II. Remarks

Claims 19-32 are pending in the application. Claims 19, 23, 25 and 29 have been amended. Claims 31 and 32 have been added.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 23 and 25-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

The last four lines Claims 23 and 29 have been removed. Accordingly, it is believed that this rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

Additionally, the Examiner stated that on lines 6 and 7 of claim 25, the phrase "capable of permitting the production of said first size" is not a positively recited step. Claim 25 has been amended to remove the phrase "capable of." Accordingly, it is believed that this rejection is now moot and should be withdrawn.

Further Claim Clarifications

Prior to discussing the reference, it is believed that a brief discussion on the current form of the independent claims of this application is warranted. Claim 19 of this application has been amended to clarify, more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which the Applicants regard as the subject matter of the present invention. Specifically, claim 19 now recites that the second cutting means overlaps a portion of the first straight side formed by the cutting means. These additional elements were originally claimed in original independent claim 25.

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-8-

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Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 19-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,729,273 issued to Fazis (Fazis).

The Examiner states that Fazis shows a first cutting blade having straight sections and an apex portion. Additionally, the Examiner states that Fazis shows a second and third blade each of which cut part of a straight section of a work piece. However, the Examiner has stated that the blades shown in Fazis do not make overlapping cuts. Claim 19 has been amended to state that the second cutting means overlaps a portion of the first straight side formed by the first cutting means as originally claimed in dependent claim 25.

Additionally, claim 25 has been amended to further clarify what Applicants believe to be their invention. More specifically, the second straight cutting means permits the production of the first straight side including at least one part of a fraction formed by the first cutting means.

As noted by the Examiner, the Fazis reference does not disclose blades making overlapping cuts. Therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn. With respect to claims 20-24 and 26-30, these claims are dependent on claims 19 and 25, respectively. Therefore, these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as given above in support of claims 19 and 25. Accordingly, allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

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-9-

Appln. No. 10/019,992

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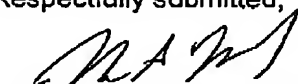
SUMMARY

Pending Claims 19-32 as amended are patentable. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner grant early allowance of these claims. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorneys for the Applicants via telephone if such communication would expedite this application.

Respectfully submitted,

February 8, 2006

Date

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-10-